

**Forum:** The Citizen forum on inequalities

**Theme:** How to reduce inequalities at different scales?

**Name of citizen:** Nesrin Pahlavi

Marital status:	Level of education
<input checked="" type="radio"/> <b>Married/in a relationship</b>	<input type="radio"/> Primary
<input type="radio"/> Single	<input type="radio"/> Secondary
<input checked="" type="radio"/> <b>With children, if so, how many: 47</b>	<input checked="" type="radio"/> <b>University</b>

### 1. How does the theme of inequalities concern you?

My name is Nesrin Pahlavi and I am 37 years old. I went to university and I am now a professor. As a woman, my salary is quite low compared to my education and poor work conditions. I don't get any kind of social protection or insurance.

Us, Iranians face a lot of economic inequalities. Indeed, one third of the population is affected by severe poverty. The cause of this severe poverty is chronic inflation, currency collapse and economic mismanagement. These economical inequalities are the result of Iran's extremely corrupted system. The top ten earners take over 50% of national income.

The inequality I face the most is gender inequalities. Indeed, Iran's law and practices restrict women's right in marriage, divorce, inheritance, political office, work, dress and public behavior. Some qualify these inequalities as gender apartheid. But Iranian women are actively fighting those inequalities. A revolution called women, life, freedom is currently in progress. It started after the death of masha amini, a woman who was killed for not wearing her hijab correctly. The goal of this revolution is to give women the same rights as men.

Unfortunately, all Iranians don't have access to education due to the lack of economical resources for instance. Tuitions and all of the expenses related to a good education are often too expensive for poorer families. A lot of Iranians also don't have access to education because of geographical reasons. People living in rural parts are often marginalized and excluded from basic services such as education.

There are also a lot of regional and geographic disparities. Major gaps exist between wealthy urban areas and deprived, rural, peripheral regions in terms of infrastructure, employment, living standards, and public service provision. Blackouts, water shortages, and poor public services are disproportionately worse in unprivileged areas.

Political and legal inequalities are also a huge problem. Corruption and lack of transparency hinder any effective distribution of wealth or social mobility. The powerful benefit from state affiliated institutions, while ordinary people and the private sector face more barriers and fewer opportunities.

## **2. What do you suggest at your level?**

I think education could change everything. To help resolve those issues we could help those isolated places by building schools, hospitals and help them to get access to drinking water. If Iranian boys and girls were to receive a more equal and inclusive education based on solidarity and citizenship, it might help reduce those inequalities.